

T-742

James Caulk House

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 04-05-2004

T-742
James Caulk House
St. Michaels
Private

c. 1850

In 1847 James Caulk purchased an 84' by 128' Chestnut Street lot from John and Louisa Dunning for \$150. From the architectural details of the extant three-part dwelling, it appears Caulk financed the construction of his bracketed dwelling within the following few years. The property remained in Caulk family hands until the mid twentieth century.

The Caulk dwelling is a prominent two-story, three-part frame house that defines the southwestern residential district of St. Michaels. Erected during the mid nineteenth century, the side hall/double pile frame residence is one of a few two-story houses in St. Michaels that boasts flanking wings of contemporary age.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JAMES CAULK HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 119 West Chestnut Street not for publication

city, town St. Michaels vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u>X</u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 379

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 110

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-742

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The James Caulk house is located at 119 West Chestnut Street in the southwestern residential district of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story side hall/double pile frame house faces south with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1850, the two-story, three-bay main block is extended from each gable end with a contemporary story-and-a-half wing. The entire house rests on an infilled brick pier foundation, and the exterior is sheathed with vinyl siding. The various gable roofs are covered with asphalt shingles.

The south (main) facade is a three-bay elevation with a side entrance and flanking four-over-four sash windows. The heavily molded four-panel front door is framed by a four-light transom and three-light sidelights. The adjacent windows retain louvered shutters. Lighting the second floor are three evenly spaced four-over-four sash. The boxed cornice and the extended eaves are trimmed with decorative brackets. Rising through the west gable end is a pair of interior end brick chimneys that service the main house. Part of each gable end is covered by the story-and-a-half wings. The first floors of each wing are lighted by six-over-six sash, while the six-over-six sash dormers illuminate each second floor. Marking each gable end is an exterior brick chimney.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-742

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The James Caulk house is a prominent two-story, three-part frame house that defines the southwestern residential district of St. Michaels. Erected around 1850, the side hall/double pile frame dwelling is one of the few two-story residences in St. Michaels that boasts flanking wings of contemporary age.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

In 1847, James Caulk purchased an 84' by 128' Chestnut Street lot from John and Louisa Dunning for \$150.(60/486) From the architectural details of the extant house, it appears Caulk financed the construction of his bracketed dwelling within the following few years. The property remained in Caulk family hands until the mid twentieth century.

Survey No. T-742

PS-2746

*James Caulk House*119 WEST CHESTNUT STREET

YEAR: 1962 VOL: 379 PAGE: 110

FROM: J. Orem Gardner and Dorothy B. Gardner

TO : Donald R. Brittingham and Kathryn G. Brittingham

NOTES: Begins at stone on corner of former William Weeden; runs with Chestnut Street 84 feet to a stone; then 128 feet back; then W 84 feet to back end of Weeden's lot; with Weeden, 128 feet to beginning. Known as "Lot number 4" on Chestnut Street. Part of a parcel bought by John Dunning from John Thompson's heirs.

Conveyed to Gardner by Gowan 1961, 373/390.

YEAR: 1961 VOL: 373 PAGE: 390

FROM: Mary J. Gowan, divorced

TO : J. Orem Gardner and Dorothy B. Gardner

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Gowan by Davis 1958, 345/18.

YEAR: 1958 VOL: 345 PAGE: 18

FROM: Walter N. Davis and Laura A. D. Davis

TO : Mary J. Gowan, divorced

NOTES: Same description.

Conveyed to Davis by Carey 1941, 251/343.

YEAR: 1941 VOL: 251 PAGE: 343

FROM: Addie T. Carey, widow

TO : Walter N. Davis and Laura A. D. Davis

NOTES: Same description.

Devised by James Caulk to his widow, Eliza A. Caulk for life with remainder to Mary Eliza Caulk, Anna Auld Caulk Thompson and Hild Graham Caulk (Will 13/167). Mary Eliza Caulk died in 1917 and in her will (19/216) devised her interest to Anna A. C. Thompson and Hild Graham Caulk. A. A. C. Thompson died intestate 1921. Her interest went to her two children, William J. Thompson and Addie L. Carey. William J. Thompson, unmarried conveyed all his interests which he got from his mother and aunts to Hilda Graham Caulk and Addie t. Caulk by deed 1920, 184/407.

Hilda Graham Caulk conveyed to Addie T. Carey 1929, 216/475.

John Dunning conveyed the property to James Caulk by 1847, 60/486.

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YEAR: 1847 VOL: 60 PAGE: 486
FROM: John Dunning and Louisa Dunning
TO : James Caulk
NOTES: \$150. The dsecription is the same as in the 1962 deed. A lot 84'x 128'.
Said to be Lot number 4 on Chestnut Street. (Lot numbers assigned by John
Dunning to lots sold by him on Chestnut Street have no relation to those
"official town lots" assigned by John Thompson or the town surveyors.
Part of the parcel John Dunning bought from the heirs of John Thompson, dcd.

YEAR: 1844 VOL: 58 PAGE: 290
FROM: Samuel Hambleton, Jr., Trustee PRICE: *
TO: John Dunning
NOTES *The property was in two parcels: #1. land of Mary Thompson, 4+ acres
at \$177.34; #2. land of John Thompson, 6+ acres at \$370.30.
This was a court-ordered sale. For location see attached copy from the Equity
Court Record. It included all the back land from the north side of Thompson
Street to the Canton Lane. The lot concerned-with here was on John Thompson's
parcel, which he inherited under the will of James Braddock in 1782. The land
was part of "Chance" and "Janes Progress", this lot being part of "Chance".

YEAR: 1732 VOL: PL#8 PAGE: 688
FROM: Proprietor PRICE:
TO: Edward Elliott
NOTES This is a resurvey and consolidation of Edward Elliott's holdings. It
was called "Chance" and included "Taylor and Janes Discovery" patented in
1695 to George Taylor. "T & J Discovery" passed by inheritance to James Hewes
who sold it to George Gleave in 1775 (20/474). Bought by James Braddock in
1775-76 (20/484, 529), it went to John Thompson by Braddock's will in 1782.

and Mary Thompson dec'd or thow claiming by, through or under them or either of them.

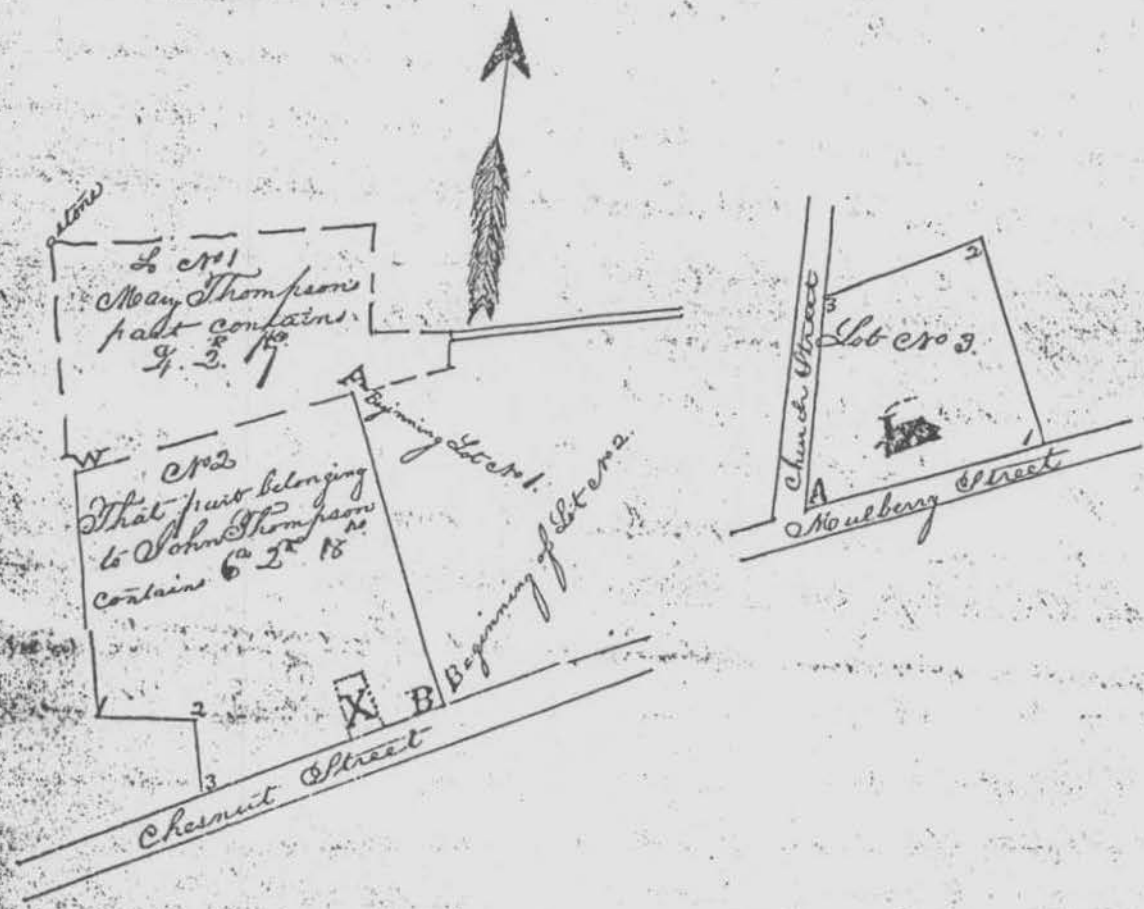
Samuel Hambleton Jr. Esq. Trustee

Sam. Hambleton Jr. Trustee
To A. Graham

June 25, Adv. Public sale real Estate of Thompson 3 yrs Lot #3.75
I do hereby Certify that the annexed Advertisement of the sale of John and Mary
and Land has been published for three successive weeks in the Eastern Gazette.

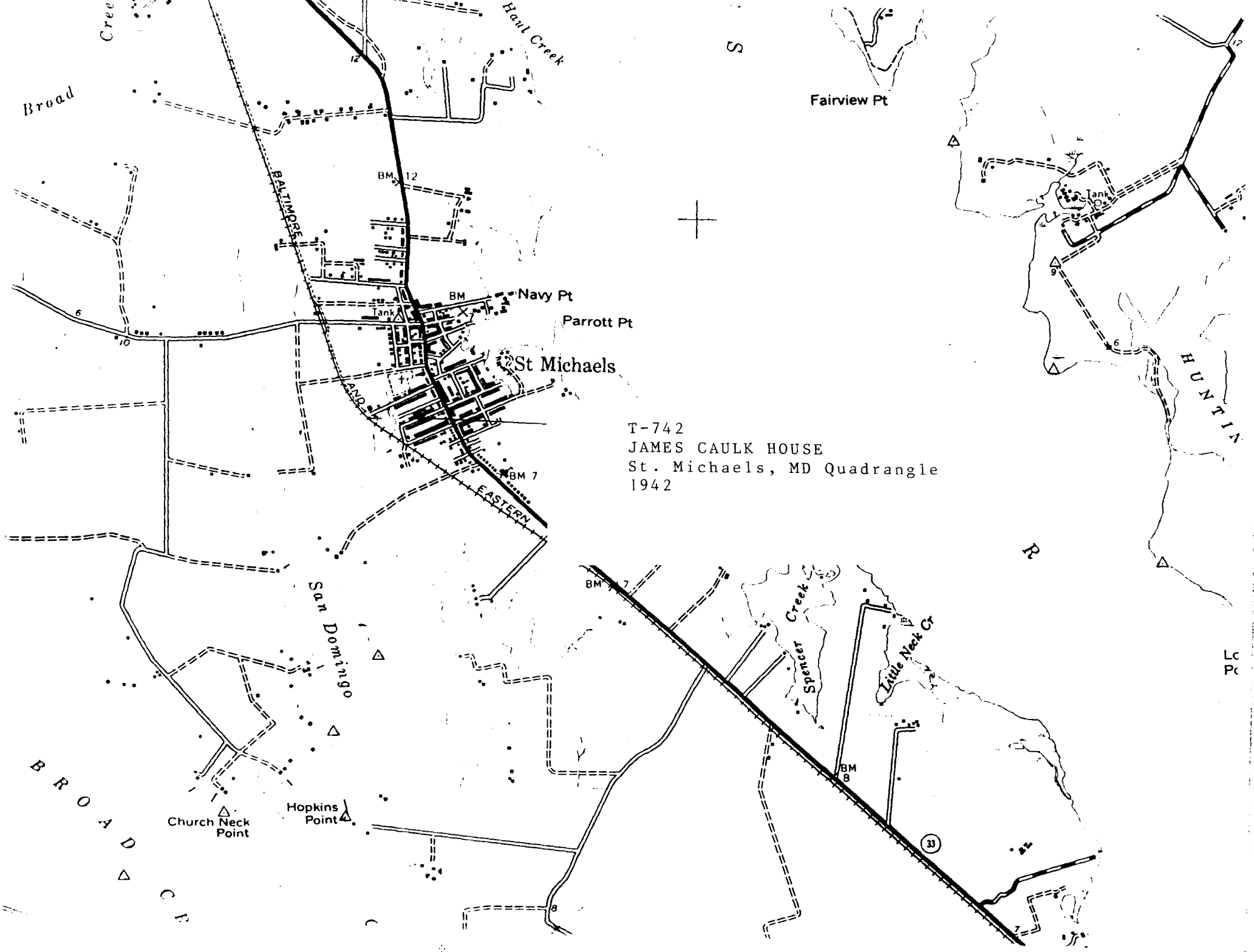
A. Graham

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Not County to wit: I do hereby certify that by the direction of Saml Hambleton Jr Esq
trustee for the sale of Mary Thompson and John Thompson real estate I have surveyed
it down the same as follows Lot No. 1 is Mary Thompsons Land as per Deed from John
unsubscribed date 9th of April 1791 Bounded as follows Beginning at the corner
the plot at the corner of Thomas Bruffs lot and from thence runs with Bruffs
1st N 68 E 10¹/₂ perches N 6³/₄ W 3¹/₂ ft to an alley laid out as right of way from this St
the main street of the Town of St Michaels this alley bears N 7¹/₄ E and is 12 feet
alt^h and from thence on N 6³/₄ W 1¹/₂ perch to Sparkes lot and with the same S 82 E
1¹/₂ perches N 7¹/₄ W 11 perches to the Canton Lands, and with the same S 82 E 11¹/₂ perches





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JAMES CAULK HOUSE
St. Michaels, MD Quadrangle
1942



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JAMES CAULK HOUSE

St. Michaels, Talbot County, MD

11/89, Paul Touart, photographer

Southeast elevation

Negative/Md Historical Trust